



Thomas, Diana

From: Thomas, Diana
Sent: Friday, October 13, 2017 9:48 AM
To: 'sharp@aclu-ky.org'
Subject: Open Records Request

Good morning!

In response to your Open Records Request of the Bible Literacy Course, Spencer County Schools does not offer any Bible Literacy courses or any other courses that use the Bible as a text or literacy.

Respectfully,

Diana Thomas

Personnel Program Manager
Spencer County Board of Education
502/477-3250

Going the Distance for All Students





October 5, 2017

RECEIVED

OCT 10 2017

Chuck Adams, Superintendent
Spencer County Schools
207 W. Main St.
Taylorsville, KY 40071-8619

SPENCER CO. BOARD OF EDUCATION

Via first class mail

RE: Request Pursuant to Kentucky Open Records Act
Bible Literacy course

Dear Superintendent Adams,

On behalf of the ACLU OF KENTUCKY, I write pursuant to Kentucky's Open Records Act, KRS 61.870, *et seq.*, to request copies of certain public records that are "prepared, owned, used, in the possession of or retained by" the Spencer County Schools ("the District"). KRS § 61.870(2). Specifically, this request seeks copies of all public records relating to every "Bible Literacy" course offered within the District during the 2017-18 school year, including:

- a) elective social studies courses on Hebrew Scriptures, Old Testament of the Bible pursuant to KRS § 158.197(1)(a);
- b) elective social studies courses on the New Testament of the Bible pursuant to KRS § 158.197(1)(b);
- c) elective social studies courses on the Hebrew Scriptures and the New Testament of the Bible pursuant to KRS § 158.197(1)(c); and
- d) and any other courses, whether social studies or otherwise, that use the Bible as a text or that has Bible literacy as its aim whether offered pursuant to KRS § 158.197 or otherwise.

This request includes, but is not limited to, the following public records for every such course offered:

MICHAEL ALDRIDGE, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR | AMBER DUKE, COMMUNICATIONS DIRECTOR
GEORGE EKLUND, COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT COORDINATOR | HEATHER GATNAREK, LEGAL FELLOW
AFRICA HANDS, OPERATIONS & DEVELOPMENT ASSOCIATE | KATE MILLER, ADVOCACY DIRECTOR
WILLIAM E. SHARP, LEGAL DIRECTOR

AMERICAN CIVIL LIBERTIES UNION OF KENTUCKY
315 GUTHRIE STREET SUITE 300 LOUISVILLE, KY 40202-3820 | T 502-581-9746 | F 844-274-0570 | WWW.ACLU-KY.ORG

- 1) all District policies and procedures relating to:
 - a) education, training, and certification requirements for any District employee, agent, or volunteer permitted to teach the elective course;
 - b) course requirements, grading criteria, subject matter content, or other requirements for establishing the elective course;
 - c) student selection for the elective course;
- 2) all class-specific materials for every such elective course, including lesson plans, assigned text(s), curriculum map, syllabus, worksheets, homework assignments, displays, demonstrative aids, and video and/or audio presentations;
- 3) all employee training and/or educational materials about the elective course;
- 4) all books, papers, and/or documents (whether stored electronically or otherwise) within the District's possession that was provided by any book publisher, course developer, religious institution, or individual regarding the content, structure, or instructional methods for a Bible Literacy course; and
- 5) all District forms required to be filled out by students and/or parents to enroll in the elective course.

You may comply with this request by emailing electronic copies of the requested records to: **sharp@aclu-ky.org**. Or, if you prefer, you may send copies of the records to my office at the address listed below pursuant to KRS § 61.872(3). If you choose to withhold any documents responsive to this request, please note that KRS § 61.880(1) requires that you identify the specific Open Records exception "authorizing the withholding of the record and a brief explanation of how the exception applies to the record withheld." Thank you in advance for your attention to this matter, and I look forward to your reply.

Sincerely,



William E. Sharp, Legal Director
Heather Gatnarek, Legal Fellow
ACLU OF KENTUCKY
315 Guthrie Street, Suite 300
Louisville, KY 40202
(502) 581-9746

